

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

A Terminal Disclaimer is received on 6/8/2006 and entered.

An extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) is required in order to make an examiner's amendment, which places this application in condition for allowance. During a telephone conversation conducted on 6/15/2006, the applicants requested an extension of time for 1 more MONTH(S) (total 2 months) and authorized the Director to charge Deposit Account No. 03-1952 the required fee of \$450.00-120.00=\$330.00 for this extension and authorized the following examiner's amendment. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jie Zhou on June 13, 2006.

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

In specification amendment of 6/14/2004, delete "now pending" in line 6 and insert "now abandoned" after December 6, 1999 in line 6.  
*BC*  
*8/3/06*

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please enter the following amendments without prejudice or disclaimer.

*On page 1, please amend the title on line 1 as follows:*

**METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR ASSAYING HOMOCYSTEINE**

*On page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 2, ending on line 7 as follows:*

The present application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/457,205, filed December 6, 1999, now pending, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/347,878, filed July 6, 1999, ~~now allowed (now U.S. Pat. No. 6,376,210)~~.

The present application also claims priority benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/301,895, filed June 29, 2001, ~~now pending~~. The disclosure of the above-referenced applications is incorporated by reference herein in their entirety.

*On page 4<sup>16</sup>, please amend the paragraph beginning on line 3<sup>16</sup>, ending on line 5<sup>18</sup> as follows:*

36  
8/5/06

To 50  $\mu$ l of plasma sample in microcentrifuge tube or in uncoated 96-well plate was added 20  $\mu$ l of 1% TBP and 50  $\mu$ l of the wild type SAH hydrolase solution. After incubation at 25°C for 15 min, 20  $\mu$ l of the enzyme inhibitor solution was added to the reaction mixture, and incubated for 10 min. to inactivate SAH hydrolase.